**STAGE 1 TEMPLATE**

Course: ENG4U Unit Title: Culture, Texts and Power: A Novel Study of Things Fall Apart

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| **MINISTRY EXPECTATIONS:**  1. Reading for Meaning: read and demonstrate an understanding of a variety of literary, informational, and graphic texts, using a range of strategies to construct meaning; 2. Understanding Form and Style: recognize a variety of text forms, text features, and stylistic elements and demonstrate understanding of how they help communicate meaning;  3. Reflecting on Skills and Strategies: reflect on and identify their strengths as readers, areas for improvement, and the strategies they found most helpful before, during, and after reading. | |
| **ENDURING UNDERSTANDINGS:** *“What do we want students to understand and be able to do several years from now?” These are transferable to new situations.*   * No text or interpretation of text is neutral * Reading communities position the interpretation of texts * Race, class, gender, sexuality, nation, ethnicity, religious identity intersect in complex ways such that readers may interpret a text from multiple and shifting social locations * Cultures are not unified nor are they discrete—these cultures are laden with power struggles, conflicts and social inequities * Oral conventions differ among cultures * Culture creates literature just as literature influences culture | |
| **ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:** *A question that lies at the heart of a subject or a curriculum and promotes inquiry and uncoverage of a subject. Essential questions do not yield a single straightforward answer but produce different plausible responses about which thoughtful and knowledgeable people may disagree.*   * What is culture? How is it created? * How do texts wield cultural power? * How do readers challenge the power of culturally dominant texts? * What are the benefits of being open to texts from different cultures? * How does social, cultural, and personal position influence the creation and interpretation of texts? | |
| **KNOWLEDGE:** *What key knowledge will students acquire as a result of this unit?*  Gain an understanding of how texts privilege certain audiences and act to disempower others  An understanding of a variety of cultural texts that are challenging the norms of the western canon  The dominant conventions in oral written and media texts and challenges to these conventions | **SKILLS:** *What key skills will students acquire as a result of this unit? What will they be able to do as a result of this knowledge and skill?*  Identify and analyse in detail the perspectives and/or biases evident in oral, written and media texts, commenting with understanding and insight about any questions they raise about beliefs, values, identity and power  Create oral, written and media texts that use the conventions and devices appropriate to the medium effectively and with sensitivity to audience  Explain with insight how their own beliefs, values and experiences are revealed in the oral, written and media texts they create  Show an understanding of how their communication engages issues of culture and power |